

CLAIMS

1. A composite board which includes a moulded front wall, a sheet insert which is attached to the front wall, a frame element which is attached to the front wall and the insert and an adhesive which acts between the front wall, the insert and the frame element.  
5
2. A composite board according to claim 1 wherein the front wall is made from a mouldable composition.
3. A composite board according to claim 2 wherein the mouldable composition includes a first resin and a catalyst.
- 10 4. A composite board according to claim 3 wherein the first resin is a thermosetting resin.
5. A composite board according to claim 2, 4 or 4 wherein the mouldable composition includes a filler.
6. A composite board according to any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein the mouldable  
15 composition includes an additive selected from any one or combination of an anti-foaming agent, a surfactant, an accelerator and pigment.
7. A composite board according to claim 2 wherein the mouldable composition includes a hydraulic binder.
8. A composite board according to claim 7 wherein the mouldable composition  
20 includes reinforcing.

9. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the insert is made from an expanded or foamed material.
10. A composite board according to claim 9 wherein the material includes any one of polystyrene, polyurethane and phenolic foams.
- 5 11. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the insert is made from an open-celled polymeric foam.
12. A composite board according to claim 11 wherein the polymeric foam is impregnated with a hydraulic binder.
13. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the frame  
10 element is made from wood.
14. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein the adhesive includes a second resin and a catalyst.
15. A composite board according to claim 14 wherein the second resin is a thermosetting resin.
- 15 16. A composite board according to claim 14 or 15 wherein the adhesive includes a filler.
17. A composite board according to claim 14, 15 or 16 wherein the adhesive includes an anti-foaming agent.
18. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 17 which includes a  
20 reinforcing member which is submerged in the adhesive.

19. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 18 wherein the insert is covered with a sealant.
20. A composite board according to claim 19 wherein the sealant is in the form of a thermoplastics polymer.
- 5 21. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 20 which includes a backing sheet which covers the insert and the frame element.
22. A composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 21 which includes a connecting layer which is applied to the insert and the frame element with which a second composite board is secured to the insert and the frame element.
- 10 23. A method of manufacturing a composite board according to any one of claims 1 to 22 which includes the steps of:
  - A) applying a mouldable composition to a mould surface;
  - B) allowing the mouldable composition to set to form a front wall;
  - C) applying an adhesive to the front wall;
  - 15 D) engaging a sheet insert and a frame element with the adhesive; and
  - E) allowing the front wall, insert and frame element to be attached to one another by the adhesive.
24. A method according to claim 23 wherein the mould surface is made from silicone rubber.

25. A method according to claim 23 or 24 which includes the step of submerging a reinforcing member in the adhesive.
26. A method according to claim 23, 24 or 25 which includes the step of covering the sheet with a sealant.
- 5 27. A method according to any one of claims 23 to 26 which includes the step of attaching a backing sheet over the insert and the frame element.
28. A method according to any one of claims 23 to 26 which includes the step of applying a connecting layer to the insert and the frame element.
- 10 29. A method according to claim 28 which includes the step of securing a second composite board to the insert and the frame element by way of the connecting layer.